

COT Security Alert – Blackberry and Cell Phone Spam

State employees are reporting numerous unwanted solicitation calls on their Blackberrys and cell phones. Many of these calls are for extended vehicle warranties and pressure the recipient of the call into immediate decisions by scaring or enticing them.

At this time, effective efforts to block these calls are not available. Signing up on the National Do-Not-Call website may help reduce these calls in the future, but some companies may ignore the Do-Not-Call List. Information on the National Do-Not-Call List may be found at <https://www.donotcall.gov/> or <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/donotcall/>.

The Better Business Bureau gives advice on dealing with firms selling extended vehicle warranties at <http://louisville.bbb.org/article/9114> . There are always dangers with purchasing anything over the phone where the call is initiated by the seller. Giving personal information over the phone to one of these callers may result in the information being used in fraud.

NOTICE: COT is providing this information so that you are aware of the latest security threats, vulnerabilities, software patches, etc. You should consult with your network administrator or other technical resources to ensure that the appropriate actions for these alerts are followed. If you are a network administrator and need additional information, please call the Help Desk at 502.564.7576.

**Security Administration Branch
Commonwealth Office of Technology
120 Glenn's Creek Road, Jones Building
Frankfort, KY 40601
COTSecurityServicesISS@ky.gov
<http://technology.ky.gov/security/>**